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PROGRAM	Good Morning America	STATION	WJLA TV ABC Network
DATE	September 25, 1980 7:00 AM	CITY	Washington, DC
SUBJECT	The CIA and the Deaths in Guyana		

JOAN LUNDEN: This morning Jack Anderson has some new details on one of the most disturbing events of our recent history, the mass deaths of more than 900 people in Guyana. Now, some of the material you will be hearing has never been heard before, and some of what you will hear is disturbing.

JACK ANDERSON: Two years ago, Americans awoke to the shocking news of a mass suicide in the jungles of Guyana. A staggering 900 men, women and children were ordered by their leader, Jim Jones, to drink poison Kool-Aid.

Now, I criticized the State Department here on Good Morning America for failing to give adequate protection to California Congressman Leo Ryan. He was murdered during his investigation of the Jones jungle commune. I now have reason to believe that our government may have known even more about the violent nature of the commune than I first suspected.

Congressional investigators have dug up disturbing new evidence that our government may have deliberately withheld information from Ryan. Apparently, the government allowed the Congressman to go to Guyana, despite the known risk, to avoid disclosing undercover CIA activity. Investigators have now obtained an actual tape recording made by Jones during the terrible final hour of the murder-suicide ritual.

November 18th, 1978. The meeting pavilion in the jungle commune. Jones at the microphone. Ryan has finished his investigation and has headed for a nearby airstrip. Jones tells his followers that one of his guards will shoot the pilot of the plane taking Ryan home.

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JIM JONES: [Unintelligible] going to shoot that pilot, and down comes that plane into the jungle. And we had better not have any of that [unintelligible] left when it's over.

So, to sit here and wait for a catastrophe that's going to happen on that airplane, it's going to be a catastrophe.

ANDERSON: Jones hammers away at the theme that Guyanese or American authorities will shortly return to massacre the commune's children. There are unbelievers in that group, including this woman.

WOMAN: And I feel like that as long as there's life, there's hope. That's my feeling.

MAN: But someday we're going to die. Someplace that [unintelligible], because everybody dies.

WOMAN: I think what I feel. And I think we all have a right to our own destiny as individuals.

MAN: Right.

WOMAN: I think I have a right to choose mine, and everybody else has a right to choose his.

ANDERSON: Jones' cajoling soon turns to exhortation. He has just learned that Congressman Ryan has been shot.

JONES: Please get her some medication. It's simple. It's simple. There's no convulsions with it. It's just simple. Just please get it before it's too late [unintelligible]. I tell you, get moving, get moving, get moving.

ANDERSON: Now the heart-wrenching and final episode of this macabre drama.

JONES: Stop this hysterics. This is not the way for people who are socialists and communists to die. No way for us to die. We must die with some dignity.

Mother, mother, mother, mother, mother, please. Mother, please, please, please don't -- don't do this. Don't do this. [Unintelligible] with your child, but don't do this.

Hurry, my children, hurry. [Unintelligible] from the hands of the enemy. Hurry, my children. Quickly, quickly, quickly, quickly. No more pain now. No more pain [unintelligible]. No more pain.

ANDERSON: Well, that's how it ended. And despite all the investigations, much of it remains a mystery that we're still trying to solve.